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BIRTH

On the 11th June, at Hiroshima, Japan, the

wife of Rev. HARVEY BROOKS, of a daughter.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VEXES ROAD CL.

LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 3rd July, 1902.

THE report of Mr. A. H. LAY, Acting Japanese Secretary to H.M.'s Legation at Tokyo, on the foreign trade of Japan in 1901, is not so behind the times as many consular reports are in the date of publication. The Foreign Office received Mr. Lay's at the end of March last and it was published in England at the end of May. It is an improved state of affairs which the report records, though it has to be chronicled that many unfavourable features marked Japan's foreign trade last year. A recovery from the evil conditions of 1900 was made, business relations with China were renewed, the rice-crop was plentiful, the raw silk export-trade flourished, the outflow of specie was checked; stocks of goods fell to normal levels, and "signs were not wanting to indicate the approach of a period of steady trade." Seeing that 1900 had seen a balance in foreign trade of £8,445,751 against Japan and an outflow of specie no less than £4,615,349, it will be seen that Japan has reason to congratulate herself on a change of fortune. The Government had been incurring an excessive expenditure, the only remedy for which was to modify the post bellum programme, as it is sometimes called, which followed the defeat of China in 1895. This policy, says Mr. Lay, and the general contraction of credit following a period of overtrading had their effect. The result was approximate equivalence of imports and exports, the figures being £26,114,616 and £25,760,682 respectively, or a balance of £351,934 only in favour of imports. In May and October, December exports actually exceeded imports in quantity. Naturally the mishaps

incidental to a contraction of credit and currency were not absent. Bankruptcies among the smaller merchants were numerous, but the more important mercantile and financial institutions for the most part survived the ordeal. The drain of specie, as we have remarked, was checked. During the summer of 1901 a sharp rise in exchange, caused by exceptional activity in exports, led to gold flowing into Japan from several quarters. The export of bullion and specie in 1901 was as follows:—gold, £1,171,696; silver, £262,452; total, £1,434,178. The import was:—gold, £1,087,310; silver, £31,699; total, £1,119,009.

The distribution of the trade will no doubt be studied with interest. The following table, extracted from Mr. Lay's figures, shows the total trades of the principal countries with Japan and the increases or decreases on the figures of 1900:—

Country.	Trade, 1901.	Change.
British Empire	£26,335,117	£2,027,715
Hongkong	5,403,111	315,563
India	5,352,904	2,093,801
Australia	440,076	68,959
Canada	352,993	19,451
	£17,384,291	£202,134

China	£7,164,469	£252,421
France	3,167,493	386,107
Germany	3,402,037	83,526
United States	1,747,925	25,490

With regard to imports, the largest decrease in value is in the case of the United Kingdom (£2,150,123), but the United States are close behind (£2,040,827). France's imports have diminished by one half. Australia, Canada, Germany and China have also suffered, but India's and Hongkong's trade with Japan revived both on the import and on the export side. No single country took less exports from Japan in 1901 than in 1900. The United Kingdom's exports increased by £22,408. The imports from the United Kingdom of cotton yarns, shirtings and cotton prints, cotton satins and cotton velvets, Italian clothes, flannels, woollen clothes, locomotive engines, railway carriages, iron, bar, rails, iron and steel (other), and paper were all less than in 1900. In fact, the import trade from the United Kingdom to Japan diminished by about thirty per cent. The only notable exception amid a general decline was in machinery and engines (other than locomotive), the imports of which from the United Kingdom in the three years 1899, 1900, 1901 amounted to £299,514, £418,007, and £259,440 respectively. However, it may be noted that the United States, Germany, France, and Belgium also improved on their 1900 figures in this line.

We propose to return to this subject shortly, as it is impossible to consider Mr. Lay's report within the limits of a single article.

The German mail of the 29th May was delivered in London on the 1st inst.

Three new cases of plague, all fatal, were notified during the day ended at noon yesterday.

The third test match between England and the present Australian team commenced at Sheffield to-day. It is to be hoped that a definite result will at last be arrived at. Out of the last seven test matches in England only one was played to a legitimate termination.

A Mr. Darmapala, who is on a visit to Japan in connection with a scheme of Buddhist revival, has been arranging for a yearly pilgrimage of 50 Japanese to Buddhists in India, from a company called the *Buddhists of India*, consisting of 600 members, 50 of whom will be chosen by lot to make the journey. Membership is not limited to religious folk. Special arrangements as to passage are said to have been made with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. It is altogether a novel programme, says the *Japan Mail*, and as each member will not have to put up more than 10 yen annually, the thing will probably work well.

The following letter applies for a situation comes from Japan:—Dear Sir:—About my charge I shall not offer any after trial with me settle up by your mind. I shall say that, though I have received high education, but I have little practical knowledge, and I am scheming that will become a great merchant in the world, pursuing after, "Roschild" and "Vanderbilt," to become the Hero in the commercial society, it want great practical knowledge, and ready mind, I suppose, therefore I am hoping now to get those. So if you please kindly employ me then I will work any matters which are able for my ability.

The *Siam Observer* of the 21st June says:—It has been already announced that H.E. Piya Sri Sahadeb, Vice-Minister of the Interior, will shortly be leaving on a special mission to Europe. Mr. Tower, the British Minister, is certain to need a holiday after the illness from which he is now, happily, recovering. It was announced yesterday that M. Klobukowsky, the French Minister, has obtained leave of absence for a health trip, and will probably be leaving Bangkok for Paris about the second week in July. Thus we have quite an exodus in prospect from Bangkok to Europe, and it seems likely that the immediate effect will be to leave politics here comparatively placid, not to say dull.

The greggists owned by foreigners in Nagasaki number at present 41, showing a decrease of eleven since the end of 1901.

The captain and officers of H.M.S. *Talbot* were to have given a dance at Kobe on the 27th ult., but postponed it on account of the King's illness.

Harmston's Circus, having concluded a season at Singapore, has gone on to Soerabaya. The Barrow Twentieth Century Entertainers have arrived in Singapore from Deli.

Former Singapore residents may be interested to learn that *Vanitas*, the well-known Straits racer and winner of the Viceroy's Cup in 1898, was on the point of death when the last papers left Singapore.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Miss Bussan Kalaiah, \$50.

Major-General Manabe, of the Japanese army, has been placed on the retired list at his own request. It is very generally understood that this is a sequel of the looting in North China. The General is dissatisfied with the course that things took.

A Social telegram says that a Mr. Munstead (?) who was an adviser to the Foreign Department some time ago, has been re-appointed on the recommendation of the Russian Minister, and a contract has been signed. This is understood to be a move to press the appointment of an American adviser.

It will be seen from the notice appearing in another column that the Indian Government has notified H.M. Consul at Canton that the regulations of the Venice Convention will be enforced against all persons or articles arriving from Canton at Indian ports which are free from infection. This notice particularly concerns Parsi and Indian traders exporting Canton goods to Bombay and Calcutta.

According to Reuter recently, "owing to the remarkable results of recent experiments, which show the extraordinary penetrative power of projectiles with the so-called Johnson cap, the Admiralty has suspended the construction of some warships whose armour was hitherto thought invulnerable." Caps are used in America, France and Russia, and possibly in Germany and Italy, but so far apparently they have not found favour in our Navy, and yet it is difficult to see why. The advantage gained may be seen by a concrete example. If a French 5.46-inch gun attacked a British 6-inch casemate at 2,000 yards it would not succeed in penetrating; with a capped shot, however, most of the hits striking within 30deg. from the direct line would penetrate. Now apparently, if Reuter's information is correct, the Admiralty has satisfied itself as to the effectiveness of a particular pattern of capped shot; and presumably we shall follow the example of other countries, and introduce it into the Navy.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily Express* tells a sensational story of Russian terrorism. The ten months' leave and hasty departure for Bado-Baden of M. Pobidonostoff, the Procurator of the Holy Synod, is said to be the result of a decision of the Russian "Vehmgericht," or secret council of the terrorist party. A few days ago, the story goes, a young lady giving the name of one of his acquaintances, asked to see the Procurator, and was at once admitted to his study. On entering, she drew a revolver and presented it at his head, threatening to shoot if he made the least attempt to call for help. She then demanded that he should make a solemn promise to resign his official position and quit Russia forthwith, adding that, although no one believed in his word, yet that he would be wise to keep it, or otherwise he would infallibly be shot. The young lady then left the Palace. A few minutes afterwards Pobidonostoff was found by his servant lying on the floor in a state of unconsciousness. On recovering from the shock, says the *Express* correspondent, his Excellency at once applied to the Tsar for permission to leave Russia. He declined to take any measures to discover his visitor.

INDIAN MERCHANTS AND
SIR T. JACKSON.

We are asked to state that, the Indian merchants of Hongkong having cabled to Sir Thomas Jackson their congratulations on receiving the honour of a Baroncy, Mr. H. N. Mody has received the following reply:—Many thanks, Indian merchants—Jackson.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The T.E.K. steamer *America* Maria, with mails, &c., left Shanghai for this port on the 1st inst., at 6 p.m., and is due here to-morrow, at daylight.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress* of Japan arrived at Kobe at 3.30 p.m. on the 1st inst., and left again at 1 a.m. on the 2nd for Shanghai, via Nagasaki, where she is due to arrive at midnight to-morrow.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress* of India arrived at Kobe at 1 a.m. on the 2nd inst., and left again at noon same day for Yokohama, where she is due to arrive at noon to-day.

The N.Y.S. steamer *Shimane Maru* (American Line) left Shanghai for this port on the 2nd inst., and is expected to arrive here on the 5th inst.

The C.P.R. steamer *Torin* left Yokohama on the 1st inst., p.m., for Victoria and Vancouver.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S SERVICE.

London, 3rd June.

THE KING'S PROGRESS.

There was no bulletin issued yesterday evening, and henceforth there will be only two daily, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Lord Cranborne has announced that His Majesty is rapidly getting better, and that the moment therefore seems most appropriate for public rejoicing. As chairman of the bouffes committee, he suggests that bouffes throughout the country be lighted to-night.

London, 30th June.

THE KING'S PROGRESS.

The bulletin issued at ten this morning says that His Majesty has slept well. The dressing of the wound gives him much distress, but there are no bad symptoms of any kind.

LATER.

The evening bulletin says that His Majesty has passed a fairly comfortable day, and that the discomfort from the wound is less.

DEPARTURE OF CHINESE ENVOY.

Prince Chen has left London.

CONFERENCE OF PREMIERS.

The Conference of Premiers has been opened under the presidency of Mr. Chamberlain. The proceedings so far are private.

COLONIALS INSPECT THE FLEET.

The Colonial and Indian Coronation guests have made a tour of the British fleet assembled at Spithead.

THE NEW ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

WELCOMED BY THE BENCH.

The new Attorney-General of Hongkong, Hon. Sir Henry Spencer Borkley, K.B., made his first official appearance in the Supreme Court yesterday. An appeal case was down for hearing before the Full Court, their Honours W. Meigh Goodman (Chief Justice) and A. G. Wise (Puisne Judge). Before the business of the Court began,

The Chief Justice said:—Mr. Attorney-General, The Judges have seen and read your commission as Attorney-General of the Colony and as this is your first official appearance in this Court, my learned brother and I take the opportunity of congratulating you on your appointment and of wishing you a successful and prosperous career. I cannot say that, at present, the Courts in which the Judges sit, the Judges' Chambers, or the offices in which the work of the Registry has to be performed are either convenient or worthy of this rising and important Colony. I am glad, however, to be able to inform you that the erection of new Law Courts has been sanctioned, that plans of a handsome edifice have been approved, and that the foundations have been completed or nearly so. I believe the laying of these foundations has occupied nearly two years. If, now that you are a member of both the Executive and Legislative Councils, you can persuade the Government to accelerate the completion of the building you will earn the gratitude of the community. If it is true that *mens aera* is most likely to be found in *corpus aera*, I think at also true that justice is most likely to be efficiently and impressively administered amidst surroundings suited to its dignity and importance. These I believe will be found in the new Law Courts when they are finished.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, who had remained standing during the Chief Justice's remarks, said in reply:—May it please you, my Lords, I desire to return to your Lordships my sincere thanks for the kindly greeting which you have tendered to me on my first appearance in this Court. I truly appreciate the responsible character of the high office which I have accepted under the Crown in the Colony. I am aware that I stand in the place where men who have achieved great position have stood before me. I am aware that the role of Attorney-General of this Colony is one which bears a vital one attached to it, and I trust that the duties which lie before me may be performed in a manner to maintain that distinguished role. With respect to your remarks regarding the Courts in which your Lordships sit, I may say I entirely agree with you—if you will allow the word—without presumption I concur with your Lordships in the expression which you have put forth. I was surprised when I arrived in the Colony to find that a wealthy and important portion of His Majesty's dominions as Hongkong is, is not better provided with a suitable housing for His Majesty's Judges and the various officers who have to carry out the important work in the administration of the Colony—the administration of justice. If I can in any way bring about an amelioration of the condition which you have alluded to you may rely upon it that no efforts shall be wanting on my part. I thank you again, my Lords, for your kindly welcome.

The ordinary business of the Court was then proceeded with.

If a recent incident may be regarded as typical, there can be no urgent need of an old-age pension scheme in Minnesota. In that State they recently retained a man in a winter camp a logging party which consisted of a contractor aged 78, another contractor aged 65, a helper aged 79, and two horses aged respectively 23 and 21. The party had built its camp, cut its roads, and piled upon a frozen lake 100,000 feet of pine timber. Perhaps it is to Minnesota that one should go in search of the legendary township which was so healthy that when a cemetery was made it was found necessary to shoot a man to start it.

THE CORONATION CELEBRATIONS.

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Coronation Committee was held at half-past four yesterday afternoon in the Legislative Council Chamber.

His Lordship the CHIEF JUSTICE, Chairman of the Committee, who presided, said:—Gentlemen, When the General Coronation Committee last met on 11th June we could not of us foresee the sad illness of His Majesty which at once put a sudden stop to the Coronation celebrations and called forth our heartfelt feelings of deep sympathy with the King in his suffering. It is another exemplification of the truth of the old maxim, "*L'homme propose, mais Dieu dispose*." Of course, both the General Committee and we, who were doing all we could in behalf of that Community to make the local Coronation festivities and celebrations a success, were heartily disappointed that our labours were in vain, but I venture to think that that feeling of disappointment was entirely swallowed up in the deeper emotions evoked by our sympathy with the King at the serious nature of His Majesty's illness. What must have been his sentiment of sorrow and dismay, to feel himself stricken down by a most painful malady on the very eve of that which was to have been the proudest day in his life, the day for which such preparations had been made all over the Empire? Gentlemen, we can only trust that the nation's prayers may be heard and that in due time His Majesty may be once more restored to health and strength.

We have asked you to meet this afternoon to give you some sort of account of the forwarding of the sub-committees and to ask your advice on one or two matters. In the first place I should like to read to you a letter which I have received from His Excellency General Gaseigne.

The letter, which was read by Mr. E. A. Hewitt, Hon. Secretary, was as follows:—

Hongkong, 25th June, 1902.

Dear Chief Justice, I should not like the Coronation Committee, of which you are Chairman, to finally decide without placing on record the deep sense of obligation which I, and indeed the whole community of Hongkong, are under to them, for the arduous work so voluntarily undertaken and so ably performed. Owing to the national misfortune which has overtaken us in the severe illness of our King the result of much of your labours has been lost to the public. In face of the disappointment and terrible anxiety of the whole Nation, it is well not to enlarge upon that felt by any one, but I cannot refrain from expressing my sorrow that the Public in Hongkong should not have been able to judge for themselves the manner in which their interests had been looked after by your Committee. I feel confident that had these Celebrations been carried to completion, the Public would have had no proof, not only that their convenience had been consulted, but also that the Celebrations had been arranged in a manner befitting this great and rising Colony. As it is, however, only remains for me to express my sincere thanks to you, who with all your other work to perform, so willingly undertook, and so ably carried out the duty of Chairman, to the several Sub-Committees who undertook the various special duties of organisation: to the Honorary Treasurer who collected subscriptions, and kept the accounts; and above all to the Honorary Secretary on whom fell undoubtedly the largest amount of work and responsibility. For myself I can only say that lasting as must be to us all the memory of the tragic collapse, with the subsequent universal anxiety, still I shall ever remember with pride and pleasure having been associated with you all in this matter. Believe me, Yours very sincerely,

W. J. Gaseigne.

At the request of the CHAIRMAN, the Hon. SECRETARY also read the reply which it was proposed to send to His Excellency. Letters were afterwards read from the French and Italian Consuls expressing the regret of those in charge that the children there were prevented by the unfavourable weather from being present at the tea given to children in the City Hall on Saturday afternoon.

In reference to this entertainment the CHAIRMAN said:—I think the children's tea went off as well as the appropriations weather permitted, and we are indebted to H.E. and to Lady Gaseigne for their kindness in attending that meeting. Personally I think the children might have received their medals and I am sure the sub-committee will be glad to ascertain the feelings of the General Committee as to whether these medals should not now be sent to the children. Pictures of the King and Queen duly framed have been sent.

The Hon. SECRETARY was of opinion that the medals should be sent out at once to the children, and made a motion to that effect.

The Hon. E. SHEWAN asked what were the views of Mr. W. Danby, who has the custody of the medals.

The CHAIRMAN—I don't know; he is not here to explain.

Mr. M. S. NORTHCOOTE—I suppose you have no idea as to when the Coronation is likely to take place.

The CHAIRMAN—Not in the least; I only know that Professor Simpson said that under the most favourable conditions the King could not possibly fully recover before next November. It certainly seems rather a pity to keep the children waiting all that time. The General in my hearing on Saturday asked if it was not possible to have the medals distributed, and Mr. Danby said they were looked up in his office. Afterwards the General told the children that they would have medals sent to them, and I think it would be far better under the circumstances to send them out. I don't see any reason for keeping them back.

The Hon. SECRETARY read to the meeting the report in the *Daily Press* of His Excellency's speech to the children on Saturday, in which he stated that the medals could not be presented just then, but would be sent for distribution to the various schools.

In view of the promise contained in the words, Hon. Dr. Ho K. at thought the medals should be distributed now, and seconded the Hon. Secretary's motion, which was carried unanimously. The children will therefore soon be in receipt of these interesting souvenirs of an unique event.

In response to the request of the CHAIRMAN, who intimated that the community had contributed towards the festivities which were to have taken place the handsome sum, roughly of \$87,000, the Hon. TREASURER (Hon. H. Murray Homey, B.N., Harbour Master) and the Hon. SECRETARY read statements of receipts and expenditure showing that a balance of \$20,000 still remained in hand.

On the suggestion of the CHAIRMAN, it was unanimously decided that this sum should be placed in the bank and devoted to the purpose for which it was subscribed when the Coronation actually took place.

The CHAIRMAN—There is another question, gentlemen, on which I should like to take your opinion. It has been suggested by H.E. that the addresses should in spite of the postponement of the Coronation be presented at Government House next Saturday at 4.30 p.m. These

addresses had been prepared and completed and signed before the sad news of His Majesty's illness arrived in the Colony. These can be with doubt that many loyal addresses were actually on their way to England so as to arrive there on 26th June before any postponement of the Coronation was announced. The addresses cannot be altered without being re-signed and as everything was in readiness I feel sure that His Majesty will at fully appreciate the loyal sentiments they contain and the expression of devotion to the Throne as if they were kept over to await the chances of the postponed Coronation eventually actually occurring. In view of the satisfactory news we receive by telegram, I think we should fall in with His Excellency's suggestion and let the Committee will accept of this proposal. A covering letter will be sent explaining that the addresses were completed and ready this day before that on which the Coronation was to have taken place.

The Hon. SECRETARY moved that His Excellency's suggestion be adopted, and this was seconded by the Hon. W. A. YUK and carried without opposition.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that the unveiling of the Coronation Statue would take place after the presentation of the addresses—at half-past five. It would be a pity, he said, to keep covered any longer this handsome gift of the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater.

The notice regarding Saturday's programme was read by the Hon. SECRETARY and adopted. It will be found in another column.

The CHAIRMAN then asked the opinion of the Committee as to what should be done in the matter of the medals to be presented to the soldiers and sailors, of which 6,000 had been ordered from home.

The Hon. SECRETARY, who said he had telegraphed to suggest the execution of the medals, said the most expensive medals were the striking of the dye, which alone cost £20.

On the suggestion of the Hon. TREASURER, it was decided to advance no further in the matter until definite word had been received of the date of the Coronation, when the manufacture of the medals could be commenced.

The Hon. W. CHATMAN, Director of Public Works, asked what should be done with the medals at Happy Valley—whether they should be taken down or allowed to remain.

It was left to Mr. Chater and the Hon. Secretary to arrange the matter.

The CHAIRMAN called for a very hearty vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Hewitt, who, he said, had worked most zealously on the Committee.

This was accorded with acclamation, and when the Hon. SECRETARY had replied and stated that he had received the most valuable assistance from the Chairman, the meeting terminated.

THE ILLUMINATIONS.

In the course of the proceedings the CHAIRMAN asked the Hon. Treasurer if the fireworks which had been purchased could be utilised in any way. The question, he said, was suggested by the news that bouffes had the other day been lit simultaneously in every part of the United Kingdom on a signal rocket being fired at Earl's Court.

The Hon. TREASURER replied that the fireworks had been returned, and that it was of little use to bring them back to the Colony.

In this connection the intimation made by the Hon. SECRETARY is interesting—that the Japanese in the Colony, through their Consul, had intimated their desire to be allowed to take a distinctive part in the illuminations, to which they had subscribed a sum of money. The letter in which the request was made also expressed the hope that King Edward would be speedily restored to health.

SWATOW.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

Swatow, 1st July.

CORONATION FESTIVITIES GABBING THROUGH.

It was with deep regret that intelligence of King Edward's indisposition was received here on Friday last. There not being any official intimation of the sad occurrence, the programme for the Coronation festivities, with the exception of the service in Church, was gone through on Thursday, the day His Majesty should have been crowned. A fairly large attendance assembled at the Kockohoh Club and drank the King's health. In the afternoon a regatta was held, however, came to no result owing to the first three winning boats not completing the race in three hours. At the dinner given in the Kockohoh Club early in the afternoon the British Consul, Mr. Tryman, presided and prepared the health of the King, the Royal Family and the Rulers of the Foreign Nations. The toasts were cordially pledged and "God Save the King" was sung by the whole audience. Mr. Richards then proposed the health of the guests and coupled with it the name of Mr. Hasegawa, who made a suitable response. The remainder of the evening was spent in viewing the fireworks, which lasted till midnight.

PARHOL.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

Parkhol, 27th June.

CORONATION CELEBRATIONS.

Yesterday, being the day appointed for the Coronation of Their Majesties King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra, Divine service was held in the afternoon in the Church Missionary Society's chapel, the Rev. C. J. Blanchett conducting the service. By invitation of H. B. M. Consul, Mr. Ernest Bennett, the whole of the foreign residents attended. The special form of service recommended for use on this occasion in the churches of the Church of England throughout the British Empire was adopted

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

FIRE INSURANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 1st July.

SIR, So long as our insurance offices continue the imprudent struggle for business in the Western district of Hongkong (as ill-reputed as Barbican) at rates which are unremunerative, so long will there be little ground for satisfaction in the study of the annual fire report. The rates at present being charged, do not even now pay the companies owing to the frequent recurrence of these heavy losses, and it is common knowledge that the leading companies would infinitely prefer better risks at proportionately lower rates. As matters stand, the native insurance companies are welcome to all they could take in these congested and badly constructed buildings, but the ratemakers will be wise if they refuse to countenance a scheme which would but involve them in another near approach to water famine. So long as "the existing lack of interest continues to be shown by the magistrates" in the matter of fire enquiries, so long will there be an ever increasing ratio of the "unknown origin of fire." The Chairman of our local Association has hit the nail on the head by his statement at the annual meeting: "It almost looks as if these in Chinatown had formed the impression that fire enquiries had been abolished." In face of that, every layman can see that the closing paragraph of the *Hongkong Telegraph* of 24th ult. is not quite accurate. And so long as the antiquated fire engines (15, 20, 22 and 23) years old things and the bad water arrangements are maintained, so long will there be extensive outbreaks of fire. It would be well to point out that under the present circumstances, the prevention of the spread of fire is of far greater importance than in many other cities, and that means exist by which this risk can be reduced.—Yours, etc.,

J. M. R.

THE WATER BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

(Continued.)

SIR, May I be allowed to speak once again? With regard to the matter of the water meters, I do not quite understand if the amount of water to be allowed to each person is to be in the ratio of the amount of rent paid. If this is so, and the amount allowed is more with a high rental and less with a low rental, then such a measure tends only to increase the distress of the poor. This cannot be according to righteousness: there must be a failure somewhere, and therefore I have no alternative but to speak once more on behalf of the poor. With regard to the rainfall: there are two important matters to be considered. The first is the weather, i.e., whether the rainfall is large or small; the second is whether the area over which it falls is broad or narrow. The need for more or less water cannot be regulated by the price of the land, whether more or less.

Will you be good enough, of your clemency, to listen to this short parable? If you feed a cow in order that you may have milk to drink, on the days that the cow gives you more milk do you increase the amount of food that you give to the cow? And on the days when the cow gives you less milk, do you cut down its allowance of food, and thus increase its distress? (Pastor) WONG YUK CHO.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 2nd July.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS W. MASON GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G. WISE (JUDGE).

MORIS E. KNIGHT.

This was a motion for appeal against the decision of Mr. J. H. Kemp, Acting Police Magistrate, in convicting the appellant in May last of having failed to conform with the regulations of the Building and Public Health Ordinance of 1901 with respect to the provision of an open space in connection with the house No. 26, McGregor Street.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor), appeared for the appellant; and the Hon. Sir Henry Spencer Berkeley, Attorney-General (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennis, Crown Solicitor), for the respondent.

Mr. Sharp, in opening the case, said this was a motion that the case which was heard by Mr. Kemp in the Magistrate's Court in May last be reheard by the Full Court on the grounds that his decision was erroneous in point of fact and of law. The Police Judge said he did not know that a rehearing in point of fact was applied for; he had not seen the depositions.

The Attorney-General asserted that the point before the Court was simply one of law. Mr. Sharp replied that while a case could only be stated on a point of law and not upon a question of fact, his client appealed on the fact also.

The Police Judge remarked that they should have copies of the depositions.

The Chief Justice said he had the Magistrate's depositions before him but they were written so illegibly that he could hardly read them; of course that was not the fault of the Magistrate, as they had to be written fast. Copies should have been provided.

Mr. Sharp thought that in that case he could only ask for an adjournment.

The Attorney-General asked what was the question of fact that Mr. Sharp desired to put? Mr. Sharp answered that they put it as a matter of fact that they had complied with the Ordinance. They appealed on the question of law, but further on the question of fact. They said they did not come under Section 55a of the Ordinance but under 55b, which dealt with houses having frontages to two streets. As a matter of fact though, it was held that the east side was the rear of the building for the purpose of the question of law they would admit that if either side was the rear it was the east side.

The Attorney-General contended that there could not be two backs; he would submit that the kitchen side was the rear.

The Chief Justice thought that if the case was to hinge upon a question of fact the Court should have copies of the depositions or else they would have to adjourn. He might lay it down for future guidance that in such cases copies of the depositions, type-written or at least written legibly, must be furnished.

Mr. Sharp said that appeals on questions of fact were heard *de novo*.

The Police Judge remarked that meantime he was going to confine himself to what the Magistrate had in his depositions.

To facilitate matters it was ultimately contended to by the Court that Mr. Sharp should read the facts of the case from his copy of the depositions and that their Lordships should, as he proceeded, compare it with the originals.

Mr. Sharp went on to read the depositions, which bore that H. Knight, inspector of nuisances, had on 27th February visited 26, McGregor Street, and finding that no open space had been provided by the owner, had issued a summons against him for not complying with the Ordinance. James Orange, proprietor of the house in question, and a witness for the owner, appeared as a witness for the owner at the Magistrate's and stated that he had received a certificate that the house complied with the Public Health Ordinance. The Magistrate, after hearing the full evidence, found the charge proven and imposed a fine of \$1.

At the conclusion of Mr. Sharp's remarks on this point, the Court refused to grant a rehearing.

Mr. Sharp then went on to argue on the point of law. He said the facts of the case were that in 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, and 1902, the houses were built on the east side of McGregor Street, Wanchai. The plans were approved before the building, and the buildings were afterwards certified by the Sanitary Board as complying with the then Building and Public Health Ordinance. No. 26 was in the middle of this row of houses. In 1901 a new Ordinance was passed, and in August the three houses situated at the end of the row were built and approved by the Director of Public Works as complying with the Ordinance and as showing an open space. They were afterwards certified by the Sanitary Board as complying with the Ordinance.

The Police Judge said it was possible they made a mistake.

Mr. Sharp, continuing his remarks, said it was admitted that there was no open space which had been made within the building's boundaries.

The Chief Justice supposed it was admitted that it was an existing building and that every existing building should be provided with an open space in a particular way.

Mr. Sharp admitted that they did not pretend to have done that.

The Chief Justice retorted that in that case they had infringed the law.

Mr. Sharp declined to take that view. The question involved was whether a building which abutted in the rear on an open, unobstructed portion of a street which measured 500 square feet in area, was within the meaning of the Act, provided with an open, unobstructed back-yard of 50 square feet of area. Those were the grounds; he admitted they were to some extent technical but thought they were sufficient. It would be unreasonable to say that a 6-foot lane at the back of this house was not a back-yard, light, and air for this house, whereas a public street 50 feet wide would not.

The Chief Justice thought they should have them both.

Mr. Sharp contended that it was an absolute superfluity, when the Ordinance said that a 6-foot lane gave sufficient ventilation, light, and air, to add to that area.

The Chief Justice pointed out that the Ordinance did not say it was sufficient but that it must be provided. It had to be remembered that the history of the building legislation of this Colony had been a process of getting concessions from greedy landlords. By degrees the Government had succeeded in getting, bit by bit, houses made a little more sanitary. It did not follow that, because the law only called for a certain amount at the present time, that amount was sufficient.

Mr. Sharp asked if it was to be said that, because it was an old house and its houses were clearly treated throughout the Ordinance as more liberally, 30-foot road was not within the intent of the Ordinance?

The Police Judge remarked that they had to consider not what the Ordinance should have said, but what it did say.

Mr. Sharp went on to say that, according to Section 55b, if a house having two main frontages upon two different streets was more than 50 feet deep it was to be regarded as two domestic buildings. This house was less than 50 feet deep.

The Chief Justice pointed out that a house with two frontages must have two rear walls.

Mr. Sharp submitted that that did not apply to a house less than 50 feet deep.

The Chief Justice asked if it was the learned counsel's argument that if a building was 51 feet deep it must have two openings in the rear, but that if it was 49 feet there need be no opening at all?

Mr. Sharp said that was his contention. In no place did the Ordinance contemplate the clearing of a space next to the street.

The Chief Justice remarked that the intention of the Ordinance was to better supervise the building of houses in Hongkong. Up till 1888 there was no proper supervision of buildings and plans, and a great number of houses covered pretty nearly the whole piece of ground that belonged to the landowner, and naturally wanted good ventilation, light, and air, and put on his land as many buildings as the law would allow him. The law did not approve of it but could not forbid it because there was no Act passed to forbid it. If there had been large open spaces left it would not have mattered, but every landlord did the same and the result was there was no ventilation except by the public streets.

The new law dealt tenderly with them and said "We must begin with existing domestic buildings and have a bit of the roof removed; we must have a piece of that man's land uncovered to the sky and air; so that the light and sunshine may come in; therefore we must have half of the roof at the back taken off above the kitchen." The question is: if there happens to be a street on each side of the building, has this got to be provided by the owner with an open space? and the real meaning of the Sections is that the owner must uncover his property because it is too far covered up.

Under Section 55a they met the problem by making it still more onerous on the man because he had got to leave his open space in the middle of his building, and two of them instead of one. If under 50 feet it did not apply, the question then was that he had not got the extra burden of two open spaces, but he had still to get one open space just as if Section 55b did not exist.

Mr. Sharp pointed out that the Ordinance called both the sides a frontage.

The Police Judge said there was no such thing as a house with two frontages under 50 feet referred to in 55b; if under 50 feet it came under Section 55a.

The Chief Justice, in delivering judgment, said he did not think it was necessary to call upon the Attorney-General to reply. This was

an appeal on the decision of the Magistrate—an appeal purporting to be both on fact and law.

The only fact that appeared to be in dispute was as to whether this house at 26, McGregor Street had a rear at all. It was suggested that it had two fronts, because there were two streets running—one on each side of what would ordinarily be called the back and the other on which would ordinarily be called the front. Inasmuch as it was admitted by the solicitor who appeared for the appellant before the Magistrate, as appeared by the Magistrate's notes, it was expressly admitted that the rear of this house was upon Albany Street; and indeed he did not see that the solicitor was in the slightest degree to blame, in the interests of his client, in making that admission, because one had only to look at the plan to see it was perfectly right to make such an admission. Any one who knew Chinese houses knew that the kitchen was usually in the rear of a Chinese house. When they looked at the plan they saw the kitchen in the rear, and there could be no doubt that the proper front was in McGregor Street. It was No. 26, McGregor Street, and was not numbered as being in Albany Street. That being so, it was quite clear that the only disputed fact was that there was no rear to the house at all and as it had been admitted very properly by Mr. Looker before the Magistrate that the rear of the house was in Albany Street, it had a rear; and therefore, the only question that was in dispute as to the facts being settled by the Magistrate, it was quite clear that the appeal, as far as the facts went, must be dismissed and that there was no question for the Court to grant a rehearing upon the facts. Coming to a question of law, that was stated in a somewhat elaborate special case, but, to go into the kernel of that case, one saw it was really a very simple matter that the Court had to decide. The question was: matter of law it was necessary to read Section 55a of the Public Health Act No. 13 of 1901. It was that every existing domestic building must be provided by the owner with an open space in the rear by opening out on each floor half of the back of such building as well as a corresponding portion of roof unless said building was already provided with an open, unobstructed back-yard of at least 50 square feet in area; and the building must be provided every floor with a window of at least 10 square feet of superficial area opening into such open space. His Lordship understood the argument as that the appellant contended that inasmuch as the street was at the back of this house as well as at the front of it, there was sufficient ventilation and air in the house to render it unnecessary to have this opening required by the Ordinance. All his Lordship could say was that he did not agree with counsel upon that point. He could only say that it might have been an argument which might have been addressed to the Legislature asking them to make a second exception when they met that section which he had referred to, that those requirements of opening out should not be required where there was an open, unobstructed back-yard of at least 50 square feet, or if there was a street both back and front. But they were not there to make a decision. It was reasonable that such a provision should be made. If he were asked, he thought it would be desirable to get to the bottom of these existing buildings, where they covered nearly the whole ground of light and ventilation could filter down through the well, which had the name given it in the Ordinance of the back-yard. If a one-storeyed building, it would be a very good thing. When it was a two-storeyed building, this was not so effective. When the building was more than that, the open space degenerated into a well. You could see the sky looking down from below, or you could look down the wall from the top, or you could look down the wall from the bottom, but there was little good so far as light and ventilation went. But it was better than nothing. Were they to grant a second exception in the requirements of the law as stated in Section 55? For his part, he said they had no power to grant such an exception. Consequently the appeal upon the law must be dismissed with costs.

The Police Judge concurred.

Mr. Sharp said that was a case where their Lordships might take the question of fact into consideration.

The Chief Justice replied that the only matter he felt some sorrow about was that the Magistrate should have imposed penalties of only \$1 in this case. The fine was \$50, and \$5 for each day. If the question had come to this Court for decision he would have considerably increased that fine. They were not called upon to do that in this instance, and he could only say that in this case they should be given.

Mr. Sharp explained that the reason he had asked the Court to reconsider their decision with regard to costs was that since the hearing of the case at the Magistrate's the Sanitary Board had issued a certificate.

The Chief Justice said that very likely the proceedings of the appellants had frightened them.

Mr. Sharp was proceeding to state further what had been the action of the Board before the hearing of the case, when

The Chief Justice (interposing) said he hoped the Board would read the decision just given and see that the law was carried out fully without respect of persons, and he hoped the Magistrate would give a very much heavier fine than \$1 for the next offence.

The Court afterwards adjourned.

POLICE COURT.

Wednesday, 2nd July.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HAZELAND (POLICE MAGISTRATE).

BREACH OF THE RATS ORDINANCE. S. Ashbury, master of the steamer *Adolphus*, was fined \$5 on pleading guilty to a breach of the Rats Ordinance at 2 a.m. on the 27th ult.

The defendant made to his Worship the following statement:—I started to move the ship into the wharf at 7.30 p.m. on the 26th ult., and expected to get her alongside and properly moored; but the rat-preventers on each line, before dark, owing to a strong wind and tide, we did not finish till after 9 p.m., and found it impossible to put on the preventers in pitch darkness and a pouring rain. I looked carefully over a copy of the Harbour Regulations to ascertain particulars regarding this Rats Ordinance; such as what time might be allowed to elapse before putting the preventers on. My watchman told me that a police constable had been on board during the night asking my men to put on the preventers, and he had told him the facts of the case. The constable said nothing, and I took it for granted that it would be all right as, had it not been impracticable to put them on at once, he would have said so. I may state that in this port I have been very careful to comply with all rules and regulations in regard to the lights and flags with petroleum cargoes, but I had no knowledge of the requirements of this Rats Ordinance, and I submit to your Worship that that fact, together with my having provided a sufficient

number of rat-preventers (intending to put them on at the first practicable opportunity) shows that I did not wilfully or intentionally violate the Ordinance in question.

THE THEFTS FROM KELLY & WALSH.

The manager of the Kwong Hing printing and stationery shops, 68, Wellington Street, was charged on remand with being in possession of one tin of violet letterpress ink, value \$4, belonging to Messrs. Kelly & Walsh. He pleaded not guilty, and was defended by Mr. J. Hastings. Mr. J. Hays conducted the prosecution.

Mr. C. T. Lutton, manager of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh's printing office, Duddell Street, gave evidence identifying the tin of ink as the property of his employers, after which the case was adjourned.

TRouble in a printing office.

Leung Yeung, a printer employed by Guedes & Co., printers and publishers, Duddell Street, was fined \$1 and bound over in \$25 to keep the peace for six months for behaving in a disorderly manner during business hours. The defendant had lost some paper, and flew into a temper when cross-questioned on the matter by Mr. Guedes.

STOLEN SUGAR.

Unlawfully obtained sugar seems to be a favourite item of commerce amongst a certain section of the Chinese population just now. Leung Hing, a marine hawker, was fined \$100 or two months' imprisonment for being unable to explain how he came into possession of 2,540 lbs. of the loathsome dainty. He went to prison.

YET ANOTHER BRACHCOMBER.

Taney Arthur Beale, an American engineer out of employment, was sent to the house of detention as a vagrant. He was arrested by Inspector McLennan in Yau-mai.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

The 21st ordinary general meeting of the above company was held on the 23rd May, at the office of the Company, 29 Cornhill, London, E.C., Mr. James Macdonald, Chairman of the Board of Directors, presiding.

The SECRETARY (Mr. A. G. Wells) having read the notice and the report of the Auditors, The CHAIRMAN—should like to congratulate the shareholders upon the excellent year which the company had had. It is quite true that the earnings have not reached the figure of 1900, which was a very exceptional year indeed, such as we could only expect to see at rare intervals. Nevertheless, the amount at credit of steamers' earnings in 1901 was highly satisfactory. It has enabled us to pay a 10 per cent. dividend, to add £30,000 to the general reserve, and to carry forward upwards of £17,000 to next year's accounts. The reason why the bonus was declared on this occasion, was that the money was required for our building programme, for which we have also utilised the balances of reserve account and auditors' account. We have thought it expedient to write our assets in China down to 1s. 8d. per dollar, owing to the lower rates of exchange current since the commencement of the year, and for present purposes this is quite a safe basis. It is impossible to foresee what silver may go to in future, but already there has been some reaction in the lowest rate of exchange. If the average of 1902 should show any advance on 1s. 8d. exchange reserve account will benefit by it. The Company's fleet has been maintained in the highest state of efficiency throughout the year. Having had an opportunity of realising some of our older steamers, we have disposed of three vessels, two of them since 31st December last. We continue the policy of developing the fleet, and you will have noticed with satisfaction the important position it has now attained, with nearly 75,000 tons of shipping. Three vessels were added in 1901, and of the 1902 list one steamer has left for China, a second is on the eve of despatch, and two are in course of construction. These are all of improved types for the various trades required, and will constitute a very satisfactory addition to our fleet. For these developments funds are necessary, and though we have had no difficulty in negotiating loans, we do not wish to rely on borrowing. The funds of our own proprietors are preferable, and as no increase of paid-up capital has been made since the Company was first started, the Directors think it is now time to provide capital for the additional tonnage. They are empowered by the Articles of Association to issue shares either ordinary or preference when they see it necessary or expedient to do so; but the matter is now brought before you that you may give your sanction to the course proposed. Cumulative preference shares, as mentioned in the report, appeal to a sensible class of investors who prefer a fixed income, and at the same time the proposal suits the ordinary shareholders, inasmuch as the additional capital required by the company is obtained at a reasonable rate. I think, therefore, this scheme will be approved by the shareholders. The total amount, £500,000, may appear large, but that sum will not be issued for the present, nor so far as we can see for a long time to come, and the immediate issue for the shareholders' benefit will be only a moderate one of which notice will be sent to the shareholders. The only other matter I have to refer to is the case of the *Kon Shing*, for so many years the subject of correspondence with the Government. They have recently informed us that there is now some chance of the Chinese consenting to a settlement, and the negotiations are to take place at Peking, which we have always advocated. If a treaty is passed, it will be a great step forward, and the negotiations will be well satisfied with the dividend declared, which we shall do our best to maintain. The earnings at the commencement of this year are scarcely so good as before, but matters in China are now more settled, and the political position has greatly improved. (Applause.) With these observations I beg to move: That the report of the directors and the accounts for the year 1901, as presented, be approved and passed. If any information is required with regard to the items of the accounts, I shall be happy to give it.

Mr. W. K. SWICK, M.P., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed, and it was seconded by Mr. ALFORD, that a dividend of 6 per cent. for the second half of 1901, making with the interim dividend 10 per cent. for the year, be declared and paid.

The resolutions were carried, and Mr. K. Swick, M.P., was thanked for his services.

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DEVELOPING AND PRINTING UNDERTAKEN. GOOD WORK. PROMPT RETURN.

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Hongkong, 6th May, 1902.

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THIS FIRST-CLASS HOTEL IS BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED IN THE BEACH

AND COMMANDS EXTENSIVE VIEWS ON ALL SIDES OF THE SEA AND

MOUNTAIN SCENERY, FOR WHICH CHEFOO IS FAMOUS. IT IS NOW

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT, HAS BEEN RECENTLY REARRANGED AND

REFURNISHED, AND IS SECOND TO NONE IN COMFORT.

GAS LIGHTING THROUGHOUT.

COMFORTABLE ROOMS.

SPACIOUS VERANDAS AND TERRACE.

TENNIS AND BATHING.

R. PEREZ, MANAGER.

HONGKONG
BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

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"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
The only office in China having European
taught workmen. Equal to Home-Work.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSEMEN
A. CHEE & CO., Established 1859.
Every Household Requisite. Depot for
Eastman's Kodak Films and Accessories.
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Diamond Merchants and Watchmakers, 40
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makers, Provision and Coal Merchants,
Praya Central, next Hongkong Hotel.

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Vessels in the Harbour.

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Shipbuilders, Sailmakers, Provisioners,
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and General Storekeepers; Sole Agents
for Shipowners' Commission ("Grey-
hound Brand") and Blundell's
Spence & Co.'s Composition.

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DROZ & CO.
10, Queen's Road Central. Repairs of
Watches and Clocks by competent
European experts at moderate rates.

PUBLIC COMPANIES

HALL & HOLTZ, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the
above Company will be held at the Com-
pany's PREMISES, Nanking Road, Shanghai,
on SATURDAY, the 5th day of JULY, 1902,
at 11 o'clock A.M., when the following special
resolutions will be proposed and submitted:

RESOLUTIONS.

I.—That the Capital of the Company be
increased to £100,000 by the creation
of 7,000 additional ordinary shares of Max.
£20 each, ranking for dividend and in all
other respects *pari passu* with the existing
ordinary shares in the Company.

II.—That the Directors be and they are hereby
authorized to allot such newly created shares
at par among the existing Members of the
Company as to so much as may be applied
for; so that each Member shall be entitled
to apply for one share of the new issue for
every two shares of the old issue held by
him and that the amounts payable on such
new shares so applied for should be paid to
the Company at such times as the Directors
shall appoint.

III.—That the Directors be authorized to
dispose of any shares unapplied for by a
Shareholder under the last preceding
Resolution within the time appointed to
such persons as they may think fit.

By Order, E. R. PALMER, Secretary.

Shanghai, 6th June, 1902. 1763
THE TEBRAU PLANTING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the
SIXTH GENERAL MEETING of
SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company
will be held in the COMPANY'S OFFICES,
38 & 40, Queen's Road Central, on MONDAY,
7th JULY, 1902, at Noon, for the purpose of
receiving the Report of the General Managers,
together with a Statement of Accounts for the
period ending 30th April, 1902.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 30th JUNE to the
14th JULY, inclusive.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers. 1763
Hongkong, 26th June, 1902.

**THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC
COMPANY, LIMITED.**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the
THIRTIETH ORDINARY
YEARLY MEETING of SHARE-
HOLDERS will be held at the COMPANY'S
OFFICES, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, on
TUESDAY, the 8th JULY, at 12.30 P.M., for
the purpose of presenting the Report of the
Directors, together with a Statement of
Accounts to 30th April, 1902, and electing
Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 24th instant to the
8th prox., both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors, GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., Agents.

Hongkong, 26th June, 1902. 1762

CARTRIDGES.

NOBEL'S SPORTING BALLISTITE.
At absolutely Smokeless and Water-resisting.
The BEST NITRO-POWDER IN THE WORLD.
PRICE OF 12-BORE CARTRIDGES—
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SPORT AND ANECDOTE.

By AN OLD FOEY.

THE FIRST TEST MATCH IN ENGLAND.

While we are all so intent upon the inaugural

Test Match between England and Australia, it may

not be uninteresting and profitable to make a

rapid survey of the twenty-four contests which

have preceded the battle of Edgbaston. It was

quite at the far end of the season of 1889 when

the first match in the old country, under the

title of England and Australia, was played.

The first combination captained by the cheerful

Billy Murdoch, now the friend and companion

of W. G. Grace at the London County Club,

made themselves so intensely popular in

England and showed such good sport and play

that the idea of such a match was generally

deemed excellent, and especially as it was felt

that this would restore a cordial feeling between

English and Australian cricketers, for the

course of true friendship had been disturbed by

the behaviour of the New South Wales eleven

when Lord Harris's team was in the Colonies.

The Surrey club have often been joyful, but

never more so than when they arranged this

first Test Match at Kennington Oval and paid

Sussex a salary of £100 to postpone

their fixture with our visitors, and Lord

Harris never showed more breadth of mind

than when he agreed to captain the home team.

He was the nobleman so seriously affronted

at Sydney, and his action at once insured

the success of the match. A splendid

English eleven was selected from six counties,

and batting first such a handsome score as 420

was compiled in the first Test Match on British

soil. This has only been surpassed by the 434

of 1886, the 483 of 1893, and the 576 of 1899, all

these heavy innings being played at Kenning-
ton Oval—which is decidedly a curiosity. The

three Graces played, and "W. G." celebrated

the occasion by rattling up 152, which alone

surpassed the 149 of the Australians in the first

innings. They followed on, and then Murdoch

played the innings of his life in scoring 153 (not

out), or one more than Grace. It was a fine

instance of pluck backed by supreme skill, but

it did not save the side, for England won the

first of the series by five wickets. In estimating

the value of this it must not be forgotten

that Spofforth ("The Demon") who laid

awake at night wondering how to get

Englishmen out, was unable to play owing to

an accident, and I guess that "Old Spoff,"

as we call him now, was worth half a dozen of some

of the bowlers put on. This was the only Test

Match of Fred Grace, who, poor fellow, was

buried within a few months, and of E. M. Grace,

who is still hale and hearty, and married his

third wife quite recently. But more strange

still it was the only Test Match in England in

which such great bowlers as Alfred Shaw and

Fred Morley played a part. "W. G." appeared

against the Australians for every year down to

1899, when he retired not because he was

unable to bat, but because of his inability to

field, although he made a magnificent catch at

point which sent back Clem Hill. But "The

Doctor," feeling that Test Matches and public

opinion were too much for him, told the

Selection Committee, of whom he was one, that

he had done with Test Matches. It is worthy

of note that A. P. Lucas, the model of grace

and force in batting, and W. L. Murdoch both

remain like "W. G." to ornament our playing

fields in first-class company.

THE FIRST VICTORY OF AUSTRALIA.

In the course of these battles in England,

the Colonists have four victories to boast of.

The first of these came in the second match,

which was also decided at the Oval in August,

1882. This game was played on a slow and heavy

wicket, but despite that Captain Murdoch led

out such a bitter as the late Percy McDonnell,

and so fine a bowler as George Palmer,

but in the place of these he had "The Demon"

Spofforth, who was worth any half dozen

ordinary men on such a pitch. The Australians

batting first lost six wickets for 30 runs, but

the total reached 63, which, however, was left

in the rear by A. H. Hornby, the English

captain, and his team, for they made 101. But

on the morning of Tuesday, the second day,

Maasie the masterful and also Bannerman the

patient rubbed off the deficiency and scored 66

for the first wicket, of which Maasie had hit

55, although he had been missed by A. P.

Lucas when 47. This display certainly went a

long way towards victory, and the vigour of

Maasie's cricket may be gathered from the

fact that he made a run a minute and hit nine

four and only seven singles. This innings was

the turning point, for the whole side were

out for 122, so that England only wanted

to win. Surely this was a mere bagatelle to

an eleven including Grace, Dicky Barlow, Geo.

Ulyett, A. P. Lucas, the Hon. Alfred Lyttelton,

C. T. Studd, Maurice Read, Wm. Barnes, A. G.

Steel (the present President of M.C.C.), A. N.

Hornby, and Edmund Pate. The idea that

such batmen could not collect these 85 was

never dreamed of, for even when three like

Hornby, Barlow and Ulyett had departed for

51, it seemed idle to imagine that the other

seven could not muster 34! But save for the

magnificent defensive play of A. P. Lucas, the

Englishmen could do nothing against an attack

which was all strategy and all "devil." The

Colonists even went the length of giving a run

away so that Spofforth should get a chance at

Lyttelton. "The Demon" got his opportunity,

and bowled him, and wickets fell until Pate was

finally bowled by the bearded Boyle, and Aus-
tralia had won her first Test Match on the soil

of the motherland by seven runs. While every

Briton was in a dreadful state of either sup-
pressed fear or open excitement, the Cornstalks

never showed a trace of anxiety. Even strong

men failed in the closing stages of this game,
and yet Spofforth and Boyle bowled like gods,
and Blackburn kept wicket like the king of

keepers that he was, for no one ever took the
ball quite so near to the stumps as this
great Victorian, who revolutionised his art and
altered the plan of the cricket field. There
is no doubt that Spofforth created a fright-
ful among English cricketers, for he had all variety
of paces and breaks, and the heart of a tiger.

It was impossible to break his heart. "Polly"
has told us that he was called "The Demon,"
before ever he came to England, and that the
old Colonial, Nat Thompson, first dubbed him
so. But the story I heard was that when Spof-
forth had played his part in dismissing the

Marylebone Club eleven for 18 in 1878—he was
overcome with joy, and in the dressing-room
while wildly gesticulating, he yelled, "Ain't I
a demon? Ain't I a demon?" But all the same
Boyle bowled quite as well as Spofforth on that

occasion at Lord's, but neither "The Demon"
nor any other man ever did such work as he in
this victory over England. In all Spofforth
took 14 wickets—seven in each innings—for 90
runs. Spofforth's last eleven overs against the

pick of England came out thus—
This reads 11 overs (ten maidens) for four
wickets. He pitched every ball within a circle
a foot in diameter, and without exception every
delivery broke back in dreadful fashion. Naught
but hard study, and constant practice, allied to

natural genius, could make a man such a bowler
who never grumbled about what the Fates gave
him. If he succeeded he was wild with delight;
if he failed, he used to say, "Well, I met a cross-
eyed woman, and what could I do after that?"

He was the first Australian trundler to strike
terror into the hearts of Englishmen, and by
the perfection of his art he lifted Australian
cricket into a position of prestige, and was nobly

helped by Murdoch and Blackham. But there
never was such a match as that which gave the
Cornstalks their first triumph over England,
and that when no excuses could be made. Oh,
stay, there is one! When the ninth wicket fell

Charles Studd was joined by Pate, who had in-
structions to be very steady and let Mr. Studd
score the runs. But the Cornstalks never got an-
other ball, for Pate got the first to square-leg for

a couple, tried to repeat the stroke, and found
himself bowled by Boyle. When he was remon-
strated with, Pate blandly replied that he was
sorry, but he could not trust Mr. Studd.

This was too funny for his interrogators, who
laughed egregiously, remembering that in the
previous July, Mr. Studd had hit 114 for the
M.C.C. against the same bowling.

OTHER TRIUMPHS OF THE CORNSTALKS.
We have to come to 1888 for the next encour-
agement to the arms of Australia, who defeated
England at Lord's by 61 runs. This was

achieved by Percy McDonnell's team, which I
have no hesitation in declaring was one of the
weakest ever sent to this country; but in this
particular match Lord's was such a mud-heap

that it was felt whoever won the toss would
prevail in the match. McDonnell named the
coin, and his side scored 116, with 22 the high-
est contribution. By unscientific but plucky

batting Edwards, the Victorian, and the late
John James Ferris added 34 for the last wicket.
But England were rolled out for 53, the late
John Briggs being the chief run-getter with

17. You see Charles Thomas Byas Turner,
"The Terror," was operating at one end and
Ferris at the other, with the result that the
former took 5 wickets for 27 and Ferris three

for 19. But the pitch was still worse when
Australia batted again, and still they scored 61,
or seven more than England had realised, so
that the old country wanted 24. This was im-
possible; they were dismissed for 62, and the

Colonists conquered again. "W. G." forced the
game for 24—which was a wonderful innings,
considering all the circumstances. Well as
Ferris bowled, I estimate that Charley Turner

took the place of Spofforth in this match, for
he captured 10 wickets for 63 runs. By the
way, it is a curiosity that although Turner
has not the household name of Spofforth, yet

he has the better average of the two on
English wickets. In England, Spofforth, when
playing with Australians, delivered 20,313 balls
for 8,107 runs and 619 wickets, giving an

average of 12.48 runs each. Now Turner sent
down 24,140 balls for 8,341 runs and 678
wickets, yielding an average of 12.50, which is
fractionally superior to that of "The Demon."

Turner's break from the pitch was so fast that
he was practically unplayable on his day. But
in these mid-nights, despite this success,
Australian cricket was under a cloud. I believe

the game was reconstituted and revived in a large
measure by the tour of Lord Sheffield's team in
the Colonies, and the second visit of the
master, W. G. Grace. What was the result?

Within a few years the federated Colonies had
probably as fine an all-round combination as
they ever had, if they did not possess a Spofforth
or a Blackham. When the ninth team arrived

in 1896, we were evidently to be thoroughly
told, and although England won the rubber,
we shall none of us forget how Australia won
at Manchester by three wickets in a game which

for the first time in the series in England
produced an aggregate of over 1,000 runs. At
Old Trafford the Cornstalks batted first on a
good pitch and scored 412—that languid-looking

gentleman, Frank Iredale, scoring 108
in his first Test Match in England, and
it was a beautiful innings, his runs being
made with such easy elegance. England

replied with 231. There was something like
a sensation when Grace and Studdart, the
first pair, were both stumped off Harry Trott's
leg breaks, and the only man who retained the

venture were my friends Prince Ranjitsinhji
and Dick Lilly. The Oriental celebrated his
debut for the head of the Empire by making 62
and Lilly carried out his bat for 65, but all the

same it was a terrible humiliation, for England
had to follow their innings. They compiled 395,
but the only batsman who played a really fine
game was Prince Ranji, who carried out his bat

for 134; and I unhesitatingly declare that this
was the most marvellous innings I have seen in

thirty years of first-class cricket. This was the
occasion on which Harry Graham, the Victorian
batman, looked on in silence for a long time,
and then he turned round, and with soothing

tones said, "Call that black fellow a cricketer.
He's a confounded juggler." Well, the witchery
of his willow blade, the perpendicular swing of
his bat in defence, the sinuosity and electric bril-
liance of his scoring strokes surpassed all that I

ever saw. Moreover, let us not forget that he
was an Indian, concerning whose legal right to
play there had been much argument, and this
was his first match in such company. Moreover,

his side were in dire difficulties, but nothing
seemed impossible to the Star of the East, who
was battling for the famous Isle of the West.
During three hours and ten minutes Ranji

never made a mistake, and scored a bad stroke,
and the way he glanced and glided balls to the
leg boundary was a revelation. The ball might
be dead on the middle stump, or fall at his head,

as one was, but the ring of spectators was its
destination. Ranji was resplendent, and every-
body else was mediocre, and the Australians
were set 125 to win. They got them for the

loss of seven wickets, but not without a struggle
which left a little grey patch in the hair of
several of the Australians, for long Tom
Richardson and Jack Hearn bowled for their

team, but all in vain. This Australia triumphed,
and, for the first time in my judgment,
owing to their superior batting. But in 1899
we had the Cornstalks with us again, and they

won the only match of the five Tests
which was concluded, when they prevailed at
Lord's by no fewer than ten wickets—the
greatest, thrashing England ever sustained on

her own wickets. On this occasion England
were bowled out for 206, Stanley Jackson with
73 to his credit alone offering any resistance
of note to the remarkable expressions of Ernest

Jones, the South Australian fast bowler, who
by capturing seven wickets for 88 runs accom-
plished his best performance in a Test Match in
England. Our team replied with 421, both

those young bachelors Clem Hill and Victor
Trumper compiling 135. Although Hill met
the attack when it was young and strong, the
more brilliant display was that of Trumper, who

to my thinking is the most attractive run-getter
in Australia. MacLaren, as I told you last week,
and Tom Hayward put forth splendid efforts
to give the game a respectable appearance so

far as England was concerned, but all the same
the visitors from over the seas won in splendid
style. Do not forget that we have nine of that
victorious team with us again, and the man

who thinks England has an easy triumph in
store is still quite mistaken.
London, 31st May.

A NEW MAGAZINE
(To be Published Quarterly)
"THE EAST OF ASIA."
JUST ISSUED.

CONTAINING Articles of Special Interest,
Profusely Illustrated, descriptive of the
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Hongkong, 6th March, 1902. 719

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GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ANTENOR"	On 31st July.
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LONDON	"STENTOR"	On 3rd July.
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LONDON	"SARFEDON"	On 22nd July.
LONDON	"ULYSSES"	On 5th Aug.
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LIVERPOOL DIRECT	"IDOMENEUS"	On 13th July.
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The S.S. "LAERTES" left Penang on the 24th ult., and was expected here on the 2nd inst.
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AND AMOY	"DAIJI MARU"	SUNDAY, 13th July.
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PAQUEBOTS-POSTES FRANCAIS.

NOTICE.

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ON MONDAY, the 14th July, 1902, at 1 P.M., the Company's Steamship

"ERNEST SIMONS," Captain Dupuy-Frémont, with Mail, Passengers, Special Cargo, will leave this port for MARSEILLES, via BOMBAY.

This Steamer connects at COLOMBO with the S.S. "Australia," which vessel takes on her Passengers and Mails, leaving that port on the 25th July, direct to Suez, Port Said and Marseilles.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon, Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M.

Specie and Parcels until 3 P.M., on the 13th July. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.)

Contents and Value of Packages are required.

For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 3rd July, 1902.

FOR NEW YORK.

THE A1, 4m. British Barque

"COMET."

Captain Davis, is now loading for the above port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

REUTHER, BROCKELMANN & CO.,
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Hongkong, 25th June, 1902.

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, ANTWERP, LONDON, PORT SAID, COLOMBO, AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"TAMBA MARU,"

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godown at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Goods will be carried on unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, To-day, 1st inst.

Goods not cleared by the 8th inst., will be subject to rent.

All ship-damaged packages must be left in the Godowns and notice of same sent to this Office before the 11th inst., or claims in connection therewith will not be recognised.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1902.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

FROM BOMBAY, AND STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godown at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—

From Persian Gulf ex S.S. "Pachumba."

Goods not cleared by the 7th inst., at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

All damaged packages must be left in the Godowns, and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the vessel's arrival here, after which no claims will be recognised.

E. A. HEWITT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1902.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM ANTWERP MIDDLESBOROUGH, LONDON AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"GLENROY."

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Goods not cleared by the 7th instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

All damaged packages must be left in the Godowns, and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Co. within ten days after the steamer's arrival, after which no claims will be recognised.

McGREGOR BROS. & GOW.

Hongkong, 1st July, 1902.

"BARBER" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM NEW-YORK, STRAITS AND MANILA.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 7th July, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 10th July, or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 7th July, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

DODWELL & CO., LD.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th June, 1902.

"BEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co. Limited, at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 7th July, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 10th July, or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 7th July, at 11 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 30th June, 1902.

FOREIGN MEN-OF-WAR ON THE CHINA AND JAPAN STATION.

Admiral Nakhimoff, Russian cruiser, 9,000 tons, Capt. Vainovskiy, at Weihaiwei.

Albatross, Russian gunboat, 8 guns, 1,200 h.p., Capt. G. G. G. at Weihaiwei.

Albatross, Russian gunboat, 300, Lieut. Aoun Bello, at Shanghai.

Amiral Charner, French gunboat, 450 tons, Capt. Beehne, at Saigon.

Ampois, American gunboat, 1,000 tons, 10 guns, 177 h.p., Comdr. Karl Rohrer, at Aspic French gunboat, 475 tons, 3 guns, 450 h.p., Comdr. Journot, at Saigon.

Bengali, French gunboat, 580 tons, Lieut. Fille, at Fakhri.

Bohr, Russian gunboat, 950 tons, 2 guns, 1,150 h.p., Capt. Dolozhskiy, at Hakodate.

Brooklyn, American (flagship) armoured cruiser, Capt. C. C. Todd, at Manila.

Burenand, French cruiser, 4,000 tons, 18 guns, 9,000 h.p., Capt. Lefevre, at Saigon.

Eussard, German cruiser, 1,600 tons, 8 guns, Comdr. von Bassewitz, at Shanghai.

Chasseloup Laubat, French cruiser, 3,800 tons, Capt. De Espinay St. Luc, at Saigon.

Comete, French gunboat, Capt. Louet, in Gulf of Tonkin.

Decidie, French gunboat, 600 tons, 6 guns, Capt. Lemaire, at Hakodate.

D'Entrecasteaux, French flagship, 8,100 tons, 14 guns, 13,500 h.p., Capt. D. du Forment, at Hongkong.

Decorates, French cruiser, 4,000 tons, 13 guns, 9,000 h.p., Capt. de Saune, at Saigon.

Dimitri Donosky, Russian armoured cruiser, 6,000 tons, 34 guns, 7,000 h.p., Comdr. H. van der Sijck, at Singapore.

Dix, Portuguese gunboat, 720 tons, at Macao.

Doa Anna de Austria, American gunboat, Com. Bowman, at Manila.

Edouard, French gunboat, 8 guns, 2,050 h.p., Capt. Texier, at Taku.

Friant, French cruiser, 4,000 tons, Capt. Adam, at Shanghai.

Furst Bismarck, German flagship, Vice-Admiral Bendemann, 11,000 tons, 30 guns, 13,500 h.p., at Hongkong.

Friedrich, German torpedo-boat, 18 guns, 3,500 h.p., Capt. Serbenoff, at Port Arthur.

Galer, German cruiser, 1,900 tons, 8 guns, Comdr. Hillbrand, at Hongkong.

General Alava, American gunboat, 1,800 tons, Lieut. Comdr. W. F. Haley, at Weihaiwei.

Granatich, Russian gunboat, 1,492 tons, 2 guns, 2,500 h.p., Capt. Smirnov, at Shanghai.

Gronofel, Russian battleship, 12,436 tons, 26 guns, 14,500 h.p., at Port Arthur.

Guichen, French cruiser, 8,200 tons, Capt. De Barry, at Hongkong.

Hausa, German cruiser, Rear-Admiral Kirch, 6,800 tons, 30 guns, Capt. Pascheu, en route Tientsin.

Helena, American gunboat, 5 guns, 1,938 h.p., Comdr. R. R. Rogers, at Manila.

Hertha, German cruiser, 6,100 tons, 30 guns, Capt. Derzewsky, at Tientsin.

Hilts, German gunboat, 1,900 tons, 10 guns, Lieut. Comdr. Schumacher, at Manila.

Isle de Cuba, American gunboat, 400 tons, Lieut. W. J. Maxwell, at Manila.

Isle de Luzon, American gunboat, Comdr. J. K. Cogswell, at Manila.

Jaguar, German gunboat, 900 tons, 10 guns, Comdr. Berger, at Shanghai.

Kaiserin Augusta, German cruiser, 6,331 tons, 20 guns, 14,000 h.p., Capt. Tagliacozzi, at Singapore.

Kentucky, American battleship, 11,500 tons, Capt. C. H. Stockton, at Yokohama.

Kerakait, French gun-vessel, 1,250 tons, 13 guns, 2,200 h.p., Capt. Gollieur, at Haiphong.

Koreeta, Russian gunboat, 9 tons, 2,150 h.p., Capt. Novakowsky, at

Lion, French gunboat, 740 tons, 4 guns, 500 h.p., Capt. Frost, at Saigon.

Lombardia, Italian cruiser, 2,900 tons, Captain John Boet, at Kobe.

Luchs, German gunboat, 850 tons, 10 guns, Comdr. Werthmann, at Canton.

Mandjour, Russian cruiser, 14 guns, 1,400 h.p., Capt. Kuchaloff, at Vladivostok.

Manila, American gunboat, 2 guns, 750 h.p., Comdr. T. H. Stevens, at Manila.

Mareo Polo, Italian cruiser, 4,883 tons, 31 guns, Capt. Paolo Botti, at Kobe.

Maria Theresa, Austrian cruiser, 5,900 tons, 30 guns, Capt. Comlich, at Chemulpo.

Monsadoek, American double-turret monitor, 4,000 tons, 1 gun, 4,050 h.p., Capt. F. F. Gilmore, at Hongkong.

Monoway, American gunboat, 6 guns, 850 h.p., Comdr. F. M. Wise, at Taku.

Monterey, American monitor, Capt. G. W. Pignam, at Shanghai.

Navarin, Russian battleship, 2 guns, 1,150 h.p., Capt. Beklemasheff, at

New York, American flagship, 8,200 tons, 24 guns, Capt. M. R. S. Mackenzie, at Amoy.

New Orleans, American cruiser, Lieut. Comdr. Perry, at Nagasaki.

Niva, French cruiser, 6,000 tons, Capt. Morazan, at Taku.

Otry, French gunboat, on the Yangtze.

Ovabny, Russian gunboat, 1,490 tons, 12 guns, 2,500 h.p., Capt. Jensen, at Port Arthur.

Pascal, French cruiser, 14 guns, 8,500 h.p., Capt. Motet, at Taku.

Pathfinder, American gunboat, 240 tons, Capt. J. E. Gilbert, at Manila.

Perseus, Russian battleship, 10,200 tons, Capt. Koroleff, at Dally.

Petrel, American gunboat, 4 guns, 1,095 h.p., Comdr. C. C. Corwell, at Manila.

Petropavlovsk, Russian battleship, 12,000 tons, Capt. Grevia, at Yokohama.

Poltava, Russian battleship, 11,000 tons, Capt. Orgeroff, at Dally.

Princeton, American gunboat, 6 guns, 800 h.p., Comdr. J. R. Seifridge, at Manila.

Puglia, Italian cruiser, 2,2

